

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments set forth above and the below remarks.

Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 15 and 16 are amended herein.

Claims 15 and 16 were rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants have amended claim 15 to correct the inadvertent lack of antecedent basis for “a list of services” and have amended claim 16 to depend from claim 15 and thereby to provide sufficient antecedent basis for “the requested one of the services.”

In view of the above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been overcome and thus, should be removed.

Claims 1-6, 8-11, and 17-20 were rejected as being anticipated by Stone et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,421,737, hereinafter “Stone”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and submit that Stone neither describes nor suggests the method of claim 1 comprising “storing the information about the corresponding resources in a database” or the computer program product of claim 19 comprising instructions causing a computer to “store the information about the corresponding resources in a database” or the system of claim 20 wherein the software includes “a resource-independent device configured to use the executable modules to monitor changes in configuration and attributes information associated with the corresponding managed devices.” As is described on page 4, line 21 of the specification, the database is “used to store hardware management and customer information.” The information in the database can include “for example, a daily snapshot of the storage system configurations, or more frequent snapshots of storage system performance information” (specification, page 10, line 18) and a configuration poller keeps the “database view of the configuration up-to-date.” (Specification, page 11, line 1) Use of the database as a repository for customer information, a tool for responding to work order

requests, and a source for billing information, is described further in the specification from page 11, line 27 to page 12, line 24 in connection with Figure 6, for example.

Regarding "storing the information about the corresponding resources in a database," the Examiner directs Applicant's attention to Figure 1 and item 17 of Stone. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the Stone monitor notification library 17 is used to define an interface between the monitor modules and the client, and is not a database storing information about the corresponding resources, as claimed. According to Stone, "[W]hen the resource takes some action which requires notification, the resource monitor module will notify resource monitoring manager 15 through monitor notification library 17. Execution of the appropriate routine within monitor notification library 17 will result in the notification being forwarded to notification handler 21. The use of notification library 17 shield the resource monitor modules from having to know how to send notifications of a particular type." (column 6, lines 14-22).

In view of the above, it is submitted that independent claims 1, 19, and 20 are patentable over Stone.

Claims 2-6, 8-11, and 17-18 depend from, and thus include the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 2-6, 8-11, and 17-18 are patentable, at least for the reasons discussed above in conjunction with claim 1.

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-6, 8-11, and 17-20 are patentable over Stone.

Claims 7 and 12-16 are rejected as being obvious over Stone in view of Nine et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,560,611, hereinafter "Nine"). Claims 7 and 12-16 are dependent on claim 1 and thus, include the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claims 7 and 12-16 are patentable over Stone in view of Nine, at least for the reasons discussed above in conjunction with claim 1.

As the claims and the entire case are believed to be in condition for allowance, an early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Amendment or this application.

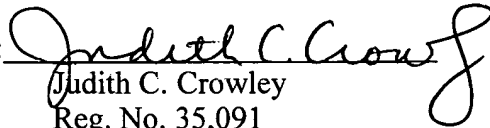
Applicants do not acquiesce to any assertion made by the Examiner that is not specifically addressed herein.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845.

Respectfully submitted,

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